

We Claim:

1. An airbag comprising:  
an inflatable cushion made from a first material having an inflator opening  
to accommodate receipt of an inflator; and  
a baffle comprising a second material and a baffle opening, the baffle  
opening being aligned with at least one-third of the inflator opening  
and having an area that is at least one-half of the area of the  
inflator opening.
2. An airbag according to claim 1 wherein the baffle opening is aligned  
with approximately one-half of the inflator opening.
3. An airbag according to claim 1 wherein the baffle opening has an area  
that is approximately double the area of the inflator opening.
4. An airbag according to claim 1 further comprising a heat shield having  
an inflator opening to accommodate receipt of the inflator, the heat shield is  
made from a material different from that comprising the inflatable cushion.
5. An airbag according to claim 4, wherein the heat shield is attached to  
the baffle.
6. An airbag according to claim 1 wherein the baffle opening has an oval  
shape.
7. An airbag according to claim 1 wherein the baffle opening has a  
circular shape.
8. An airbag according to claim 1 wherein the baffle has two baffle  
openings.

9. An airbag according to claim 1 wherein the baffle comprises an upper section and a lower section, the baffle opening is substantially located in the upper section of the baffle.

10. An airbag according to claim 1 where the baffle and the heat shield are made from a coated woven nylon fabric.

11. An airbag according to claim 1 wherein the heat shield is attached to the baffle by using double needle chain stitch, the stitching is approximately 10mm from the edge of the heat shield.

12. An airbag according to claim 1 wherein the baffle opening is disposed in the baffle so that a portion of the inflation gas passes through the baffle opening without contacting the baffle.

13. An airbag according to claim 1 wherein the baffle opening is disposed in the baffle so that the baffle has no influence on the deployment trajectory of the airbag.

14. An airbag comprising:

an inflatable cushion made from a first material having an inflator opening to accommodate receipt of an inflator; and

an inner airbag comprising a baffle opening and the inflator opening for receiving an inflator, the inner airbag is made from a material different from the first material, the baffle opening being aligned with approximately one-half of the inflator opening and having an area that is approximately double the area of the inflator opening.

15. An airbag according to claim 14 wherein the baffle opening has an oval shape.

16. An airbag according to claim 14 wherein the baffle opening has a circular shape.

17. An airbag according to claim 14 wherein the inner airbag has two baffle openings.

18. An airbag according to claim 14 wherein the baffle opening is disposed in the inner airbag so that a portion of the inflation gas passes through the baffle opening without contacting the inner airbag.

19. An airbag according to claim 14 wherein the baffle opening is disposed in the baffle so that the baffle has no influence on the deployment trajectory of the airbag.